

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

A POS system comprising:

advertising information input control means for receiving advertising information;

billing amount calculating means for calculating a billing amount based on the advertising information received by said advertising information input control means;

payment confirming means for detecting if payment of said billing amount has been completed;

advertising information storing control means for storing said advertising information; and

advertising information sending means for sending said advertising information to a printing device.

2. A POS system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

an image input means for reading an image;

and said advertising information input control means receiving an image read by said image input means, as at least part of the advertising information.

3. A POS system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

size input control means for specifying a size of an advertisement containing said advertising information;

and the billing amount calculating means being responsive to the size input control means for calculating the billing amount based on the specified size.

4. A POS system according to Claim 1, comprising a disk drive that stores image files and the advertising information input control means receiving the image files as advertising information from the disk drive.

25

5

- 5. A POS system according to Claim 4, wherein said disk drive comprises a floppy disk drive.
- 6. A POS system according to Claim 1, comprising a multi-color printer that receives the advertising information from the advertising information sending means and prints the advertising information in at least two colors.
- 7. A POS system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

check-out information input control means for receiving check-out information;

storing means for storing the advertising information;

advertising information retrieving means for retrieving advertising information stored in the storing means;

printing data generating means for synthesizing the check-out information received by the check-out information input control means with the advertising information retrieved by the advertising information retrieving means, and for generating printing data to be printed as a receipt; and

printing control means for printing the generated printing data according to a predetermined format.

- 8. A POS system according to Claim 7, comprising size input control means for specifying a size of an advertisement containing said advertising information and wherein the printing data generating means generates said printing data based on said specified size.
- 9. A POS system according to Claim 7, wherein said check-out information input control means receives customer information;

and wherein said advertising information retrieving means includes selecting means for retrieving one advertising information item from a plurality of advertising information items stored in the storing device, based on the customer information received by the check-out information input control means.

25

5

- 10. A POS system according to Claim 9, including means for inputting to the check-out information input control means at least one of a customer's age group and gender as the customer information.
- 11. A POS system according to Claim 1, wherein said advertising information includes a period for running an advertisement.
- 12. A POS system according to Claim 1, wherein said advertising information includes characteristics of an advertisement recipient, said characteristics including at least one of gender, age, and occupation.
- 13. A POS system according to Claim 1, wherein said advertising information includes a printing size of an advertisement.
- 14. A POS system according to Claim 1, wherein said billing amount calculating means calculates a billing amount based on advertising information including at least one of a period for running an advertisement, a printing size of an advertisement, and one of an advertisement recipient's gender, age, and occupation.
- 15. A POS system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

an input device;

a display device; and

a storage device; and

wherein said display device displays an advertisement in a size that is the same as a printing size of said advertisement.

16. A POS system comprising:

an advertising information input controller that receives advertising information;

a billing amount calculator that calculates a billing amount based on the advertising information received by said advertising information input controller;

a payment confirming unit that detects if payment of said billing amount has been completed;

an advertising information storing controller that stores said advertising information; and

an advertising information sending unit that sends said advertising information to a printing device.

17. A POS system according to Claim 16, further comprising:

an image input device that reads an/image;

and said advertising information input controller receiving an image read by said image input device, as at least part of the advertising information.

18. A POS system according to Claim 16, further comprising:

a size input controller that specifies a size of an advertisement containing said advertising information;

and the billing amount calculator being responsive to the size input controller to calculate the billing amount based on the specified size.

- 19. A POS system according to Claim 16, comprising a disk drive that stores image files and the advertising information input controller receiving the image files as advertising information from the disk drive.
- 20. A POS system according to Claim 19, wherein said disk drive comprises a floppy disk drive.
 - 21. A POS system according to Claim 16, comprising a multi-color printer that receives the advertising information from the advertising information sending unit and prints the advertising information in at least two colors.
 - 22. A POS system according to Claim 16, further comprising:

a check-out/information input controller that receives check-out information;

a storing device for storing the advertising information;

an advertising information retrieving unit that retrieves advertising information stored in the storing device;

a printing data generator that synthesizes the check-out information received by the check-out information input controller with the advertising information retrieved by the advertising information retrieving unit, and that generates printing data to be printed as a receipt; and

a printing controller that prints/the generated printing data according to a predetermined format.

- 23. A POS system according to Claim 22, comprising a size input controller that specifies a size of an advertisement containing said advertising information and wherein the printing data generator generates said printing data based on said specified size.
- 24. A POS system according to Claim 22, wherein said check-out information input controller receives customer information;

and wherein said advertising information retrieving unit selects one advertising information item from a plurality of advertising information items stored in the storing device, based on the customer information received by the check-out information input controller.

20 25. A POS system according to Claim 24, including a customer information input unit that inputs to the check-out information input controller at least one of a customer's age group and gender as the customer information.

A method for billing for advertisements printed on receipts, comprising: receiving advertising information;

calculating a billing amount based on the advertising information received; confirming payment of said billing amount calculated; and

5

storing said advertising information received.

27. A billing method according to Claim 26, wherein said receiving advertising information step includes receiving image information.

28. A billing method according to Claim 26, further comprising:

receiving check-out information;

retrieving the stored advertising information

synthesizing the received check-out information with the retrieved advertising information, and generating printing data to be printed as a receipt; and

printing said printing data.

29. A billing method according to Claim 28, wherein said check-out information receiving step includes receiving customer information;

and wherein said advertising information retrieving step includes selecting and retrieving one advertising information item from a plurality of advertising information items stored in said storing step, based on said customer information received in said check-out information receiving step.

- 30. A billing method according to Claim 26, wherein said advertising information includes a period for running an advertisement.
- 31. A billing method according to Claim 26, wherein said advertising information includes characteristics of an advertisement recipient, said characteristics including at least one of gender, age, and occupation.
- 32. A billing method according to Claim 26, wherein said advertising information includes a printing size of an advertisement.
- 33. A billing method according to Claim 26, wherein said step of calculating a billing amount includes calculating a billing amount based on advertising

325

20

Day.

5

information including at least one of a period for running an advertisement, a printing size of an advertisement, and one of an advertisement recipient's gender, age, and occupation.

34. A billing method according to Claim 26, further comprising:

displaying an advertisement in a size that is the same as a printing size of said advertisement.

An information recording medium storing a computer-readable program for performing a method of billing for advertisements/printed on receipts, the method comprising:

receiving advertising information;

calculating a billing amount based on the advertising information received;

confirming payment of said billing amount calculated; and

storing said advertising information received if payment of said billing amount is confirmed.

- 36. An information recording medium according to Claim 35, wherein said receiving advertising information step includes receiving image information as at least part of the advertising information.
- 37. An information recording/medium according to Claim 35, wherein the method further comprises:

receiving check-out information;

retrieving the stored advertising information;

synthesizing the received check-out information with the retrieved advertising information, and generating printing data to be printed as a receipt; and

printing said printing data.

25

38. An information recording medium according to Claim 35, wherein said information recording medium comprises a compact disk, floppy disk, hard disk, optical-magnetic disk, digital video disk, magnetic tape, or semiconductor memory.

39.

A POS system comprising:

an information input terminal;

a server;

and a cash register;

wherein said information input terminal includes:

a display that displays an input menu and a confirmation menu;

an input device that receives advertising information and a confirmation input;

a terminal CPU that transmits said advertising information to said server;

wherein said server includes:

an input terminal side interface that receives said advertising information from said information input terminal, and that transmits an ID to said information input terminal;

a non-volatile storing device that stores said advertising information; wherein said information input terminal further includes:

a printer that prints said advertising information and a barcode that represents said ID;

wherein said cash register includes:

a barcode reader that reads said barcode that is printed by said printer;

a register CPU that transmits said ID to said server,

wherein said server further includes:

P4982a patapp.doc Customer Number 20178

a calculating module that calculates a billing amount;

a server CPU that transmits said billing amount to said cash register; wherein said cash register further includes:

a display that displays said billing amount;

a billing amount payment confirming module that confirms a payment;

said register CPU being responsive to said billing amount payment confirming module confirming a payment for transmitting to said server that said advertising information is to be registered.

40. A method for billing for advertisements printed on receipts, comprising:

receiving advertising information from an input terminal;

transmitting said advertising information to a server;

printing a temporary registration containing an ID;

reading said ID;

confirming said ID in said server

calculating a billing amount;

displaying said billing amount;

receiving payment; and

registering said advertising information in said server.

41. An advertising method comprising the steps of:

receiving customer data;

transmitting said customer data to a server;

finding customer target group data in said server corresponding to said customer data;

receiving advertising information from said server; and

printing a receipt containing said advertising information data.

42. A POS system comprising:

an information termihal that receives advertising information and provides a billing amount;

a server that selects advertising information; and

a cash register that prints said selected advertising information on a receipt.

